

The Institution of Environmental Sciences

The professional body for environmental scientists
President: His Grace the Duke of Westminster OBE TD DL

**PO Box 16
BOURNE
PE10 9FB**



Telephone & Fax: +44 (0) 1778 394846
E-mail: ies-uk@breathemail.net
Web site: <http://www.ies-uk.org>

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AIMS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE NEW DEPARTMENT

Both the aim and objectives set out are comprehensive and adequate.

Whilst sustainable development as a desirable target should underpin all Departmental policies, it does not cover the entire range of responsibilities which may be defined as covering wider areas e.g. environmental protection (species and habitats). Objective 1 refers to this area but is not necessarily a concomitant of sustainable development.

We perceive an important function of the Department to be a close working relationship with regional and local authorities, voluntary and community groups, business and farmers. Local knowledge, specific requirements and wishes are of significance and importance. Broadly based national policies should be implemented flexibly and with sensitivity for local situations and conditions.

As a result of the split of environmental matters from the old DETR it has now become essential that there is the highest degree of co-operation and co-ordination between DEFRA and DTLR. Regional policies must have a commonality and transportation and urban development policies impact significantly on rural situations – indeed there are few clear demarcation lines! A clear and well organised process for interaction between the two departments should be established and observed.

Dr. R. A. Fuller
On behalf of:
The Institution of Environmental Sciences

25th September 2001